

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2607

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC, EG

SUBJ: SYG AND MIDDLE EAST DEBATE IN SC

1. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION BETWEEN SYG AND AMBASSADOR BENNETT AT SECURITY COUNCIL LUNCHEON JULY 18, WALDHEIM INDICATED FULL AWARENESS DANGERS FOR HIS OWN POSITION AND ANNOUNCED PLANS TO VISIT NEAR EAST IN EVENT FORTH-COMING ME DEBATE IN SC ENDS IN BITTERNESS AFTER ACRI-MONIOUS DEBATE.

2. SYG SAID HE IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH EL ZAYYAT JULY 19 FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE ZAYYAT'S RETURN TO NEW YORK. ALTHOUGH THERE IS MUCH TALK OF NONALIGNED BEING AT WORK ON DRAFT RESOLUTION, SYG HAS SEEN NO LANGUAGE AND DOES NOT KNOW WHAT ZAYYAT WANTS. HE DISMISSED SADAT'S TRUCULENT STATEMENTS OF PAST FEW DAYS AS MEANT TO COVER HIS AT HOME WHILE HE NEGOTIATES. HE SAYS EGYPTIANS CONTINUE TO TALK OF A MASSIVE VOTE IN THEIR FAVOR, BUT HE EXPRESSED REALIZATION THAT MERELY HAVING VOTES OF MOST OF SC WOULD BE EMPTY OF PRACTICAL RESULTS IF FORMULATION NOT OF NATURE TO BRING US ALONG WITH IT. HE READILY AGREED WITH BENNETT'S ASSERTION THAT WHAT IS

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IMPORTANT IS TO TAKE A FEW STEPS FORWARD RATHER THAN

GETTING INVOLVED IN WORDS FOR SAKE OF WORDS AND IN LOOKING BACKWARD.

3. WALDHEIM THOUGHT MOST DIFFICULT POINT TO GET AROUND WOULD BE EGYPTIAN INSISTENCE ON HAVING MENTION OF JARRING MEMO IN RESOLUTION. BENNETT RESPONDED THAT WE THOUGHT PARAMETERS OF OUR POSITION HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR TO ALL AND THAT IN AMERICAN PARLANCE, REFERENCE TO JARRING MEMO WAS A NO NO. BENNETT REITERATED AMERICAN PREFERENCE FOR CONSENSUS AND STATED THAT US NOT PREPARED TO GO FURTHER THAN SIMPLE REAFFIRMATION OF RESOLUTION 242 AND TO WELCOME SYG VISIT TO AREA. BENNETT STATED OUR POSITION THAT ANY STATEMENT OR RESOLUTION WHICH SOUGHT TO DEFINE, REFINE OR OTHERWISE UPSET BALANCE OF RESOLUTION 242 WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO US. SIMILARLY, BENNETT SAID, THERE SHOULD BE NO ATTEMPT TO INSTRUCT SYG OR RESTRICT HIS MISSION. TO HAVE HIM VISIT THE AREA WOULD BE PROGRESS AND HE SHOULD GO ENTIRELY UNFETTERED. NATURALLY WALDHEIM APPROVED THIS VIEW OF HIS MISSION.

4. WALDHEIM STILL HOPEFUL OF ARRANGING MATTER THROUGH CONSENSUS IF EGYPTIANS CAN BE BROUGHT TO RATIONAL POSTURE. OTHERWISE HE IN FAVOR OF MEETING ON JULY 20 AT LEAST TO CLEAR THE DECKS FOR SUBSTANTIVE ACTION JULY 23. HE IS ANXIOUS TO SPEED THINGS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO PROCEED WITH HIS POSTPONED VISIT TO EASTERN EUROPE. HE RECOGNIZES DANGERS TO HIS HOPES FOR TRIP TO ME IF SC CONSIDERATION OF ISSUE SHOULD GET OUT OF HAND OR TURN BADLY SOUR, AND SAID HE WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD WITH ZAYYAT.
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